

*the fanellis*

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541 Schultz Road  
Elma, New York 14059  
September 20, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: Docket Numbers 98N-1230  
96P-0418  
97P-0197

Dear Madam or Sir:

I would like to express my deep concern with the safety of the nation's egg supply due to the dangerous and inhumane practice of forced molting. The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service recognizes that hens subjected to forced molting shed increased amounts of salmonella bacteria, thus contaminating their eggs.

The FDA mandate extends further than merely putting warning labels on egg cartons and regulating egg-refrigeration temperatures. I am 46 years old, and well remember a time (not too long ago!) when salmonella contamination of eggs was not the widespread problem it is today. Something clearly has changed, and that something is the increased practice of forced molting--increasing the egg supply (unnecessarily) at the expense of its safety.

What the FDA must do is ban the practice of forced molting because it presents an incontrovertible danger to the public health. Disease in hens is promoted because the starvation and water deprivation destroy their immune systems.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. Such a ban is long overdue!

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) Anne Fanelli

98N 1230

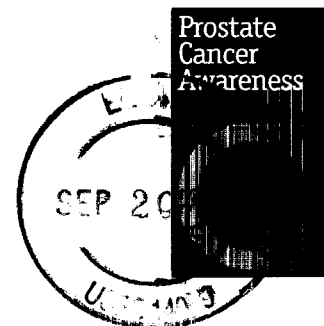
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C701

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C702  
96P-0418/C701

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